

<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/uk/14-day-weather-trend/greater-london/london>

Tipping in London restaurants: When eating out, it's customary to leave 10-15% of the bill. Sometimes restaurants add on a service charge (usually 12.5%), so I recommend double checking your bill to prevent tipping twice. Tipping is not customary for fast food, takeaway or self-service.

Tipping in bars: Tipping is not common in bars or pubs. And (this is vital) never, ever, ever, leave a tip. Really. Don't. Even if they have left a jar. That only happens where there are American tourists and the pub should be ashamed.

Tipping in taxi drivers: While it is polite to tip 10-15% of the taxi fare, most people simply round up to the nearest pound.

Tipping in London hotels: Many London hotel restaurants include a service charge, usually 10-12%. If a service charge is not included on your restaurant bill, it is customary to leave a 10-15% tip. For cleaning staff and hotel porters, leaving a tip is at your discretion, but always appreciated.

FOR PLANNING:

- http://files.londonandpartners.com/assets/pdf/tube_map_june_2017.pdf
- https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjS1_2Ihr7WAhUB9YMKHR29CPQQjRwIBw&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pinterest.com%2Fexplore%2Flondon-neighborhoods%2F&psig=AFQjCNEUVicDsPwwYcem5dwH0VrQJr0GCQ&ust=1506278269232803

London

Getting around

- Take the 453 bus from Paddington Station, southbound – it'll pass lots of the 'major sites' hop on and off as often as you want, all in the knowledge that you'll never spend more than £9 with the daily Oyster card cap! On this route you'll pass, Oxford Street, the BBC head quarters (if you'd like to do a tour), Regent Street, Picadilly Circus, Leicester Square, Downing Street, The Houses of Parliament, The London Eye and you can get off just shy of the Imperial War Museum! An epic journey but your guaranteed to see loads of sites that you can pic and choose to explore. **Top tip:** Sit on the top deck and watch the city from the front of the bus!
- Get an Oyster Card
- The River Thames is the true center of London, and the Thames Clipper river bus service will give you a perfect view of the best of the best in the English capital.

This is an awesome walking path that hits all the major sites, and if you don't go in anywhere it's about 2 hours. <https://secretldn.com/sightseeing-london-map-walking-route/> . Could probably skip bits of this too

<http://www.thebellevoyage.com/2016/04/london-instagram-spots/>

Super helpful tourist map!!! <http://www.mapaplan.com/travel-map/london-top-tourist-attractions-map/high-resolution/london-top-tourist-attractions-map-01-must-see-historical-places-high-resolution.jpg>

Potential order of things

- Here is a link to a self guided walk round the Westminster / Whitehall area (includes Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, Big Ben/Parliament)
https://...whitehall_walk_westminster.htm
- You could possibly do Borough Market on Saturday morning for Breakfast (it is South of the river, half way between Tower Bridge and the Millennium Bridge) and THEN do Tower Bridge and Tower of London (and St Paul's) as they are nearby THEN go to Langhams THEN go to Westminster / Whitehall in the afternoon.
- Westminster Abbey
 - London Eye (short walk over Westminster Bridge); can have great views
- Buckingham Palace
- St James Park (right in front of Buckingham Palace)
- Houses of Parliament / Big Ben
 - Best views of it are from Westminster Bridge
 - 10 Downing Street is in this area too
- Trafalgar Square (cd do Leicester square/Cecil's Court on way after)
 - Leicester Square is where the cheap ticket booths are, if we wanted to try to see a show
 - World's smallest police station
- St. Paul's (roughly halfway between Westminster and Tower of London but closer to Tower)
- Tower of London
 - Does Abi want to do tour?
- Tower Bridge
- Globe Theater (if we want)
- The River Thames is the true center of London, and the Thames Clipper river bus service will give you a perfect view of the best of the best in the English capital.
- Sunday
 - Duck & Waffle for brunch? (over on east side, nearer Tower of London)

- Borough Market?
- Notting Hill (could do bfast Sunday? Farm Girl Café?)
- Would like but seem further out
 - Borough Market (southeast over the river)
 - Kings Cross Station (Platform 9 ¾)

Afternoon Tea at the Langham – 12:15 Saturday reservation

- Proceedings here start with a palate-cleansing lemon posset and a glass of Laurent-Perrier Brut and end with wild strawberry and pistachio cream macarons. In between, there's truffle duck egg sandwiches, smoked salmon and asparagus on a rye cracker, and plenty of scones. For something a little different, try the peppered beef pastrami and Red Leicester coleslaw on caraway and cocoa bread. Served in the sparkling Palm Court, this is a full-on tea, so arrive hungry. We began with a palate-cleansing blackberry jelly and a large glass of Laurent-Perrier. Then came the sandwich course, which included deliciously buttery red-pepper quiches, crayfish and caviar rolls and amazing foie gras and smoked duck tarts with mandarin, washed down with a refreshing cup of the Langham's own-blend tea. There were three types of scone (plain, sultana and chocolate with marinated orange) served with strawberry jam and clotted cream, followed by a glitzy-looking platter of pastries and cakes based on Fennell's latest set of designs, the Gold & Pearl Tropical collection. Among them was a salted-caramel pearl and pistachio-fudge lollipop, a mango and passionfruit shortbread and a Kentish strawberry and white balsamic macaroon. Tip: order the blackcurrant-and-hibiscus fruit tea with the pastries - it makes a refreshing accompaniment.
 - https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g186338-d1415601-Reviews-Palm_Court_at_The_Langham-London_England.html
 - £49 per person, £59 with a glass of Perrier-Jouët Grand Brut NV champagne

Westminster Area

- Big Ben, Parliament, and [Westminster Abbey](#). Outside of Westminster Abbey, you can admire the Gothic architecture of the Abbey, and then head inside to soak up the vast amount of British history that's housed there – [you can buy your tickets online ahead of time](#) to avoid long lines during peak times of the year.
- Take in Buckingham Palace's architecture and iconic guards before strolling Birdcage Walk—a scenic route lined by gardens, ducks, and swans—to Westminster Abbey. You can tour the infamous, 925-year-old church, which is also the resting place of some of Britain's biggest names (read: Queen Elizabeth I, Charles Darwin, Mary Queen of Scots), and hear Big Ben ring out on the hour. Before leaving, snap a photo at one of the red phone boxes on St. George Street. They're back-dropped by the enormous clock tower and passing double-decker busses, making for the ultimate London photo-op.

- **[View alert!]** My favorite thing to do is walk **across nearby Westminster Bridge** to view the building from across the river. This is also a great spot to check out the [London Eye!](#)

St. Paul's

- St. Paul's Cathedral - There has been a St. Paul's church at this site since 300 AD. The church has been burned and rebuilt 3 different times. The current St. Paul's was the tallest building in London for over 200 years. You can pay to go inside or just walk around the outside, either choice is impressive! The Dean's Stair (aka Geometric Staircase) is filmed in Prisoner of Azkaban. St Paul's Cathedral stands as one of the city's most iconic landmarks, head across the Millennium Bridge (that no longer wobbles) and enjoy a unique perspective of its impressive dome and grand architecture.
- St Paul's is not far from your hotel. There are good views of it as you go up Ludgate Hill when it is lit up and on a Friday evening the traffic should be lighter.

Tower of London / Tower of Bridge

- After your visit to the Tower, walk along the promenade by the River Thames, which is the perfect spot for a photo opp with the Tower Bridge in the background. Wait long enough, and you're likely to see the bridge open up to let a ship pass through. This is one of the best views of Tower Bridge so be sure to get a picture when you're done at the tower.

Get out on the water

- The River Thames is the true center of London, and the Thames Clipper river bus service will give you a perfect view of the best of the best in the English capital.

Borough Market – closed Sundays

- Cross the river either on Tower Bridge or London Bridge next door and wander on over to Borough Market to grab some lunch! There are so many options here, you may have a hard time not trying them all!

Walk along the Thames

- While taking a walk along the Thames is a great way to see the Globe, London Bridge, the Tower of London, and Tower Bridge, it's also ideal for taking in some smaller spots, like the Southbank Book Market. I stumbled upon it on my way along the Thames one morning, and became caught up in a treasure hunt through used novels and comics, as well as handmade prints, and postcards. Continuing along the Thames you'll find a skate park, stunning pieces of street art, buskers (street-performers), and restaurants overlooking the water. Exploring this area is a great way to take in impromptu charms, like this Millennium Bridge street performer

Shakespeare's Globe Theater

- After filling up on tasties from Borough Market, waddle on over to Shakespeare's Globe Theater. You'll need to take a tour to see the inside of the Globe, or, even better, see a show if you're there from April-October.

Shoreditch neighborhood / Brick Lane (northeast a bit, north of Tower of London)

- If you're in Brick Lane (Shoreditch), After you've gorged yourself on bagels and cereal, wander around Brick Lane and do some shopping. You never know what you'll find. Be sure to stop in at Dark Sugars, for some seriously amazing and different chocolate!
- Shoreditch is supposed to have awesome street art too, feel like Abi would like. After a long day exploring London, head over to Shoreditch to chill out and relax in one of its many hip bars! You'll also find a multitude of restaurants that will most definitely take your fancy! Expect lots of music, crowds and relatively high prices for some of the cooler bars! There's also a cat café!!

Notting Hill (way out northwest), pretty far

- This affluent West London district will make you wish you could move into one of the adorable pastel terraced victorian houses and never leave. Wander the streets and take the perfect instagram picture until you get hungry again. Get an early start this morning with breakfast in Notting Hill. London's most picturesque neighborhood is filled with candy-colored houses and dreamy private gardens, so wandering through it is a real treat. Walk down Portobello Road, the most well-known street in the neighborhood due to its renowned market. Don't miss the smaller side streets around Westbourne Grove, which are incredibly charming.
- Be sure to hit Portobello Road Market on the right day. Saturdays are the biggest (and also busiest) day, but you will find the most vendors. Find the schedule below. This should take you enough time that you can eat lunch and dinner here, or just eat all day long!

Harry Potter Sites:

- Scotland Yard Place/Horse Guards Avenue (Ministry of Magic Visitors entrance as seen in the Order of the Phoenix and Deathly Hallows Part 1; just a corner, nothing special)
- Leadenhall Market (aka Diagon Alley in first movie; between Millennium & Tower Bridge)
- Cecil's Court (aka Diagon Alley; near Leicester Square?)
- Millennium Bridge (Rebuilt after the attack by the Death Eaters! (then a walk past Shakespeare's globe)
- Finish your day off at King's Cross Station for Platform 9 3/4 and the Harry Potter Shop

Probably won't get to

- Start off your last morning in London with a cruise along the River Thames to Greenwich, where you can visit the Cutty Sark (the world's last-surviving tea clipper, built in the late 1800's and designed to carry tea from China to England) and the National Maritime Museum. You can also stand on the Prime Meridian line – otherwise known as 0 degrees longitude.

- **Amazing markets!!** <https://www.buzzfeed.com/chelseypippin/markets-every-londoner-must-visit>

Views

- <http://www.itsallbee.com/2015/02/london-at-sunset-5-top-spots-to-catch.html>
- <http://thetravelhack.com/travel-tips/where-to-take-the-best-photos-in-london/>
- Have a drink at OXO Tower, great view of St. Pauls & Thames (sunset/evening)
- The Tate Modern is a great museum if you like art and is completely free. If you have time, wonder around (get a map otherwise you can be in there for hours) before heading to the Café. You'll have to take the elevator to one of the highest floor, but it's pretty easy to find. Once there, if you're lucky enough to get a set near the windows order a hot cup of tea and enjoy the view on St Paul's Cathedral and the river.
- You can go to the top of the Shard for a £25.95 fee which you probably already know about. However, you can also enjoy the view by going to the bar-restaurant (open from 12pm). To do so, dress smart casual, pick a bar and queue (not for too long if you pick any day but Friday or Saturday). Once up there, take your camera out and enjoy! You can get a drink, a small bite and all the rest. Don't skip on the toilets, the view is incredible from there: floor to ceiling window just for you!
- The Double Tree Hilton is situated on Pepys Street and has one of the best view over Tower bridge. You'll need a bit of confidence for this one if you don't want to pay for a drink at the bar but it's possible (we did it!). Once inside the hotel, ask for the bar terrasse and get in one of the elevators. Once up there wander around, take lots of pictures and either sit down for a drink, or simply go back down!
- The Sky Garden is completely free if you don't want to eat or drink. You just need to register (a lot in advance if you want to go during the weekend) on their website. – book ahead!!
- **The Roof Gardens** is a bar located in Kensington where you get to view London from a unique angle whilst sipping on a cold Martini. It's not the cheapest place ever but worth it if you want to relax somewhere sophisticated whilst watching the sunset.
- **Primrose Hill** is located over near Regent's Park and is one of the most **popular** spots in London during the summer to chill out with friends in the late afternoon with views across the London skyline.
- Southbank you get the lovely view of the London Eye and Big Ben across Westminster Bridge all lit up at night!

2-day itinerary where it's all fairly easily walkable

Hit up Borough Market to grab a slice of London's rich history and breakfast on the go. The market, which has been serving Londoners for around 1000 years, offers some of the best organic British-sourced produces along with regional specialities from around the world. A shot of Monmouth espresso with its toasted almond nuts fragrance will keep you going for the day and breakfast from Maria's Market Cafe (which has been opened since 1961), will hold you over till lunch.

The Southbank, considered as London's cultural district, runs along the south of the Thames River and stretches from Westminster to London Bridge. The Southbank is always bustling with activities. From people celebrating an international food festival to Art exhibitions and installation, there's always something for you to enjoy along the river. If none of that's to your taste, you could just grab a pint or a cold glass of wine, sit and watch as the duck boat and Thames clipper go up and down the river.

Head across the Millennium Bridge to view one of the UK's most iconic churches: St Paul's Cathedral. The church really does stand out like a beacon in London. The sheer magnificence of the domed roof built in the English Baroque style, will have you marvelling for hours. After braving the endless sets of winding stairs in the cathedral, you'll arrive at the perfect spot for a sweeping view over London, great for watching the hustle and bustle of London spread out below you. You'll need to pay for an entry admission to the Cathedral floor, the crypt, and the three galleries in the dome. The admission covers multimedia guides and guided tours. Photography is not allowed inside the Cathedral, but it is permitted- without tripods- on the external galleries.

You can't visit London without seeing a show at the West End. You can pick up cheap tickets if you're willing to sit in the stalls or go on the standby list. You can easily pick up tickets from different outlets around London. I definitely would recommend seeing 'Wicked' at the Apollo Theatre or 'The Lion King' at Lyceum Theatre if you're into musicals.

A day out in London is not complete without drinks in Soho or you could top off your night with a view over the city from one of the many rooftop bars like Aqua Spirit on Regent Street.

Taking a walking tour on a Sunday morning is way better than on a Saturday or weekday as the City is a lot quieter and shops don't open for business until 12pm (although you're allowed to browse from 11pm). There'll be less tourists and commuters on the streets, so you'll be able to cover more ground without fighting to get through large crowds. I suggest booking the free SANDEMANs walking tour of London which is two and a half hours and starts at 10:00 am. It will leave you enough time to still enjoy the rest of the day.

After all that walking, you'll need to sit down and satisfy your appetite. Head over to Duck and Waffles, where you'll not only tuck into fluffy, syrup-drizzled waffles topped off with a crispy duck, but you'll also get a great view over London.

Wander around Shoreditch and be filled with wonder. You'll quickly realise that this once derelict and rundown neighbourhood is now the heart of London's hipster neighbourhood, filled with colourful street art, endless cocktail bars, and trendy coffee shops where you can pay upwards of £5 for coffee. Don't worry, it's the artisan, organic-ethnically sourced-pesticide free-prayed over by Buddhist monk kinda coffee, and that's why you'll pay £5 for it.

You can also check out the 24-hour bakery Brick Lane Beigel. Try their classic salt beef beigel with mustard and pickles, but hold the mustard if you can't handle spicy or peppery food.

End your day with dinner from either the Sky Garden or the Shard and enjoy a view of the city awash with golden sunset light. The Shard is the highest observation deck in the city but I find it quite expensive for what it is at £35. I suggest visiting the Sky Garden where you get a 360-degree view over London without the price tag.

Maida Vale district (little venice)

Even if you're not into theatre or shows, there's no denying that London is the one place you really should be! Take the opportunity in the city to enjoy one of the cities classic shows such as Les miserable, Phantom of the Opera and many more. For discounted tickets, head to the TKTS Official Booth in the centre of Leicester Square, here you'll be able to grab shows (that haven't sold out) with a discount of around 50% off.

Before your evening ends, you've got a final few minutes to catch one of London's most iconic crossroads, Piccadilly Circus. Love it or hate it, every first time visitor should make a little stop here. Visit at night, when the crowds have dissipated and the lights shine bright!

You can see the remains of the gothic church, St Dunstan-in-the-East, rubble ruins from the Roman London Wall, the grounds of Lesnes Abbey, and more without ever leaving the city.

Free London walking tours - <http://freelondonwalkingtours.com/>

I started at Borough Market, where Southwark's open-air array of vendors serve up local cheeses and meats, imported oils and herbs, pastries, sandwiches, seafood, and so much more.

<https://handluggageonly.co.uk/2015/09/03/15-amazing-secret-spots-you-have-to-see-in-london/>

Nightlife

JAMBOREE, STEPNEY - Refreshingly lo-fi and authentically bohemian, this live-music venue is attached to Cable Street Studios, a former sweet factory now occupied by artists and musicians. There's no sign outside. Just follow the muffled strains of a fiddle into a shambolic wonderland that's part junk shop, part cabaret. An ever-changing line-up of emerging bands perform every night, from gypsy swing to Celtic folk. Sunday afternoons are devoted to Scrabble and vintage jazz. A magician performs card tricks, while a resident artist paints live portraits of the bands and their fans, a rich mix of bearded folksters and dapper East Enders.

Food & Drink

<https://foursquare.com/top-places/london/best-places-scones?fbLoginFailed=true>

Historic pubs:

Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese – When you first walk into this Fleet Street pub (is this near where we’re staying?), you would be forgiven for thinking that it’s a bit on the small side. A tiny front bar and “courtyard” are seemingly all the drinking space there is. But explore a little further and you’ll discover a warren of cosy cellars, leading down to a cavernous “chop room” where you can enjoy some solid pub grub. There has been a pub here since the early 16th century but what you see today was rebuilt shortly after the Great Fire of London in 1666. Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese is perhaps best known for its literary associations; the likes of Samuel Johnson, Arthur Conan Doyle and that old gadabout, Charles Dickens, have all visited.

After indulging on your Full English Breakfast yesterday, it might be time for something a bit healthier. Try a smoothie or juice at Juice & Public.

Stop into the Wolsely for a fancy lunch at this iconic restaurant.

Indian food is a staple in London. Hit Bombay Palace for some beautiful and authentic Indian food!

Simply Tasty Café & Kitchen - It might be time for another full English breakfast, or try something new. This traditional shop serves breakfast all day, so don’t worry if you get up late.

After a one mile walk, treat yourself to a fine meal at London’s oldest restaurant, Rule’s, established in 1798 and frequented by the likes of Charles Dickens and Charlie Chaplin. Be sure to make a reservation well in advance.

Fryer’s Delight - This is a no frills chippy, but the fish is good and the chips are crisp!

A great place to eat is within one of London’s trendy little cafe’s on Kings Road. Tom’s Kitchen is a firm favourite, where they’ll serve breakfast no matter what time it is! (breakfast)

By now, you’ll no doubt have worked up an appetite, take the tube straight to Liverpool Street Station, where you’ll head over to Duck and Waffle for, you guessed it, some duck and waffles! Almost at the top of the skyscraper, Duck and Waffle serves a mighty lunch, all whilst overlooking the expanse that is London! **Top tip:** A lunch will cost around £30 but it’s well worth it considering you’d pay almost £30 to go to the top of the Shard! Admittedly higher but certainly not more delicious! (takes a while to get there???)

After a morning of fun and frolics, hop on board the tube and make your way east to Notting Hill to discover the neighbourhood and grab a bite to eat. One of the best places to stop is Daylesford Organic Farm shop and restaurant where you can eat a whole range of delicious produce that’s grown at their Gloucestershire farm.

London Grain House in Kings Cross – try the eggs benedict

My favorite spot for breakfast is [Farm Girl Cafe](#), where you won’t be disappointed in the food, the coffee, or the instagram-worthiness of the decor! Farm Girl opens at 8:30am

Arguably, one of the nicest restaurants in Covent Garden, Clos Maggiore is a French fusion restaurant that every visitor (and Londoner) should try once. Book a table in advance, especially if it's for an early evening meal... oh and ask for some advice on the wine when you arrive, these guys know their stuff! Ask to be seated in the main atrium; it's filled with thousands of fairy lights that twinkle in the twilight hours of dinner!

head straight over to Ed's Diner, a retro 1950's diner that serves some of the best shakes in town. Try their chocolate and peanut butter milkshake, made fresh right in front of your eyes!

I started at Borough Market, where Southwark's open-air array of vendors serve up local cheeses and meats, imported oils and herbs, pastries, sandwiches, seafood, and so much more.

<https://handluggageonly.co.uk/2015/05/20/14-amazing-street-food-markets-you-have-to-visit-in-london/>

If you don't make it to one of the many distilleries for a tour and tasting during the day (City of London Distillery, Beefeater, London Distillery Company, Sipsmith), you can still drink gin as Londoners do ... with the right bartender. Head to the Hilton London Bankside's restaurant and lounge, Distillery, to learn about gin and gin drinks from bartender Ricky Wing. Ask what a gin fizz is and he'll dive into its Prohibition-era roots as he makes you one, or go for a Queen Elizabeth II for some British history and egg whites to end your night.

Beigel Bake – have the salt beef bagel

Bread Ahead – amazing donuts

Pieminster – get the “mothership”

Best street food - <https://www.buzzfeed.com/ailbhemalone/street-feast>

- Grill My Cheese
- Mother Clucker
- Bao (Taiwanese street food)
- Pizza Pilgrims
- Crosstown Donuts
- Rola Wala (“twisted” Indian)
- Anna Mae's (mac & cheese)
- Mama Wang's Kitchen (hand-pulled noodles, Chinese flatbread sandwiches, etc.)
- Deeney's (toasties)
- Ali Baba Juice (juices)
- Bleecker St. Burger
- Churros Garcia
- The Grilling Greek
- You Doughnut

You can tour and taste at the Fuller's Brewery for a tenner. You can tour the historic Chiswick brewery for £7, and add a four beer tasting for just £3 more.

There's a secret library bar at the BFI. You go through a hidden bookcase to enter.

Quirky cafes - <http://www.cntraveller.com/recommended/food/london-best-quirky-cafes/page/biscuiteers-boutique-and-icing-cafe>

At this drop-in icing café, you buy one of the seasonal range of biscuits (say, flowers and hearts for springtime), the waiter or waitress quickly explains the basics of icing and then you're free to use the colourful range of sugary decorations to beautify your biscuit. Be warned, though: to leave you'll have to walk past the phenomenal range of chocolates, cakes and sweet treats upstairs in the beautiful neo-Parisian boutique.

Porridge Cafe is a light-filled, poster-covered Hackney joint that specialises in... well, the clue's in the name. As though it were Cereal Killer Café's older, healthier sibling, it serves a changing menu of fancy takes on your standard day-starting fare (blueberry, ginger and cashew butter; pomegranate, orange and dates), and there's also a range of 'savory porridges' - or as we prefer to think of them: 'risottos'. Think slow-cooked beef, ragu, feta and basil or a spelt porridge topped with capers, beetroot and a poached egg.

It's not often we're happy about our day going down the toilet. But we'll make an exception for this Victorian ex-public lavatory, which has been beautifully refurbished into a teeny tiny daytime café. The original porcelain urinals have become a pretty counter, vintage lampshades dangle cutely from cisterns and diners sip impressively strong espresso surrounded by wall-to-wall gleaming tiles. The kookiness runs out when it comes to their brunch menu (cereals, pastries, toast) and lunch offering (soups, salads, sandwiches), but who needs 'off-the-wall' when you can have plain old 'delicious'?

Like your breakfast so dayglo that you could wear it to a rave? Then get yourself to this café dedicated to unusual bowls of cereal. Sure, there are healthy options, but the real fun's in its massive range of wacky neon-coloured foreign cereals and selection of toppings that includes peanut butter chips and freeze-dried marshmallows. But the undoubted highlight's the Chocapotamus cereal 'cocktail', which comes with a little Kinder Happy Hippo bobbing, yes, happily in a Coco Pops-filled lake of chocolate milk. Be warned, though, you may want to visit on a weekday. It's generated so many 'Too hipster? Not too hipster?' column inches that lines can stretch round the corner on weekends. And there was us thinking that Marmite was as controversial as breakfast could get. Thankfully for queue-haters, the owners have now announced that they are opening a second brand in Camden Stables, on 14 May 2015.

When it opened in August 2014, this minimalistic Shoreditch coffee shop was London's first 3D printing café. But now? Yeah, it's still the only one. The lampshades are 3D printed, the window display is a machine churning out three-dimensional objects and at the back, there's a counter where you can pay them to print or laser engrave the object of your choice. It's all about encouraging creativity, so along with your latte you may also find yourself handed a leaflet urging you to brainstorm an idea and then get it 3D printed by the staff. But hey: it's not often you get to take a casual cup of coffee to another dimension.

Kitties don't just rule the internet. In Shoreditch, they've even taken over a café. London's first dedicated cat café features 12 resident moggies for visitors to play with (each with their own dedicated Twitter account). The walls are lined with 'cat stairs' for them to clamber up, there's a kitty-sized equivalent of a hamster wheel and the downstairs is a veritable feline Toys R Us, with moggies crawling through nylon tunnels, swiping at iPads featuring cat-specific games and batting around a cavalcade of fluffy toys. We highly recommend tucking into a slice of scrummy red velvet cake and a salted caramel chai latte. You'll look like the cat who's got the cream tea.

Stop into the Wolsely for a fancy lunch at this iconic restaurant.